

NIOSH Stakeholder Meeting on Respiratory Protection for Healthcare Workers  
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Title: Design of Filtering Facepiece Respirators

Abstract: One of the objectives of Project BREATHE is to evaluate design features to improve respirator comfort and usability for healthcare workers. 3M has focused on comfort of filtering facepiece respirators for many years with the understanding that worker comfort and willingness to wear the respirator help reinforce compliance and overall worker protection. Multiple design features and technologies have been evaluated through participation in Project BREATHE. These design features and technologies include filtration media and respirator design as they relate to breathing resistance, headband materials, headband attachment methods, antimicrobial agents, and materials that contact the face. This presentation will give a brief overview of certain technologies or design features evaluated, which ones align with current priorities, and the balance between features and constraints.